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October 27, 2003

## VIA HAND DELIVERY

The Honorable Patti B. Saris  
United States District Court for the District of Massachusetts  
1 Courthouse Way  
Boston, MA 02210

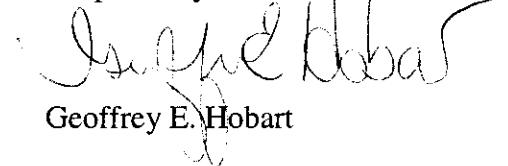
Re: MDL No. 1456, Civil Action No. 01-CV-12257-PBS (*Robert  
J. Swanston v. TAP Pharmaceutical Prods., Inc., et al.*)

03-11157 PBS

Dear Judge Saris:

On behalf of the defendants in this action, I am writing to follow up on the request Your Honor made at the October 9, 2003, hearing asking defendants to address whether properly-served defendants consented to removal of this action. We have almost completed our inquiry, but we are still awaiting further information, including the *Swanston* court file. Accordingly, defendants respectfully request until October 31, 2003, in which to address the issue of consent.

Respectfully submitted,

  
Geoffrey E. Hobart

cc: All counsel of record (via Verilaw)